

Scott

October 11, 1988

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Holland Shepherd, Reclamation Soils Specialist *HWS*

RE: Asphalt Ridge, Native Asphalt Company, M/047/004, Uintah
County, Utah

3/047/036 HWS

Native Asphalt Company is the new owner of the Asphalt Ridge Tar Sands Site. While inspecting the Standard Oil reclamation efforts, I happened on to some mining that Native Asphalt has initiated at this site. Native Asphalt has dug a pit approximately 30 x 15 feet perhaps 7 feet deep, at it's deepest part, and has constructed a stock pile at the Asphalt Ridge Site. The location of the mining is about 1/4 mile east of the older Standard Oil disturbance. Native Asphalt has not filed an NOI with the Division.

For some reason, Native Asphalt has decided to initiate their mining in the middle of an environmentally sensitive area. The Native Asphalt Mine road pit and stockpile is located right in the middle of a riparian area, spring and associated stream. No acceptable mitigating efforts have been initiated by Native Asphalt to alleviate the impacts on this spring and perennial stream. Pictures of the impact have been taken and will be placed in the file along with this memo.

Native Asphalt should be notified about their obligations and responsibilities to 1) file with the State if they are mining in Utah and 2) mitigate any environmental impacts that they are creating on their mine site.

Native Asphalt was earlier contacted by the Division and by the operator, concerning the ongoing reclamation by Standard Oil at the Asphalt Ridge site.

jb
cc: Lowell Braxton
Scott Johnson
MN4/42